Production on malaria vaccines

2190. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the status of production of malaria vaccines, both overseas and in this country; and

(b) since when these have been under development and the status of the research and development effort in this regard, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Malaria vaccines are not produced in India and no report of commercial production of malaria vaccines in other countries has been brought to the attention of the Government.

(b) Based on R&D efforts initiated in the Seventies, malaria vaccines have been developed and experimental trials have been conducted by the scientists in U.S.A.

Foreign currency deposits by NRIs

2191. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total foreign currency deposits by Non Resident Indians outstanding by the Commercial Banks and the debt servicing obligations on these deposits yearwise since the inception of the scheme;

(b) whether interest rate offered by Government is higher than London Inter Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR) and whether Government are aware that it is a costly way of raising foreign exchange; and

(c) whether Government are also aware that foreign exchange reserves in the country are utilised for creating, rupee-backed assets and if so whether Government propose to review the FCNRI term deposit scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Recommendation of Planning Commission

2192. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of major steps that have been recommended by the Planning Commission to improve the resource position of the Government;

(b) whether Planning Commission has also drawn the attention of the Government to the fact that the entire plan expenditure of the Centre is financed out of borrowed funds and if so, the remedial measures intended to be taken by the Government; and

(c) whether, in view of this, Government are contemplating a change in the terms of reference of the 9th Finance Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) As a part of its normal functions, the Planning Commission undertakes reviews of resource position in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. For improving the resources position, the Government is conscious of the need for raising the budgetary savings, improving the financial performance of the public-sector undertakings and for containing the growth in non-plan expenditure.

(b) The Seventh Plan has pointed out that due to depletion of budgetary savings and the inability of the public sector enterprises to generate adequate internal resources, there is an increasing reliance on borrowings for financing public sector outlay. Hence the Government is seized of the need for improving public savings. Besides, while presenting the 1987-88 budget, the Prime Minister has stated that the budgetary deficit estimated at Rs. 5688 crores for the current year which also reflects Government's borrowings, shall not be allowed to be exceeded.